

January, 2000



Wastewater News

Internet Address: <http://www.epa.gov/owm>

Working towards Clean Water



Clean Water . . . a better environment
Office of Wastewater Management



UPCOMING MEETINGS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING

What is happening in January?

Go to the OW Calendar of Events site by clicking here

<<http://yosemite.epa.gov/water/news.nsf/owcalendar?OpenView&Grid=4&Date=1999-07-05>>

Upcoming Events

Urban Water Resource Tools

OWM, in cooperation with Region 5 and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, is co-sponsoring a National Conference on "Tools for Urban Water Resource Management and Protection" in Chicago, February 7 - 10, 2000. The conference will provide participants with practical, applied information on the most effective tools and technology for meeting NPDES permit requirements, and will emphasize the Phase II program's six minimum measures. For more information, see <http://www.nipco.org.il.us/water_tools_2000.htm> or contact John Kosco on (202) 260-6385.

Satellite Videoconference on the Phase II Storm Water Rule

APWA, through an EPA grant, will present a nationwide satellite videoconference outlining the requirements of the storm water phase II regulations, and what public works agencies must do to comply, on February 15, 2000. For downlink locations and registration information, see <<http://www.apwa.net/education/workshops/stormwater.htm>>.

Storm Water Pilot Training Course

OWM held a pilot workshop December 7-8 on the NPDES Storm Water Regulation, both Phase I and the new Phase II rules. The pilot course was held in Virginia Beach, VA in cooperation with the Navy. Additional courses will be held in 2000. For more information, see <<http://www.epa.gov/owm/sw/training/course.htm>> or contact John Kosco on (202) 260-6385.

NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course

The objective of the NPDES Permit Writers' Training Course is to provide the basic regulatory framework and technical considerations that support the development of wastewater discharge permits as required under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program. The course is designed for new permit writers highlighting the process of developing, issuing and complying with NPDES permits. The format of the course is a combination of lecture, case examples, and practical exercises that are geared to acquaint participants with the tools and resources available to assist them in writing NPDES permits. The training course lasts 5 days and there is no fee for attending. Current courses are scheduled for Los Angeles, Boston and Nashville. For more information please visit our website: <<http://www.epa.gov/owm/npdesup.htm>>.

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National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC)

Water and Wastewater Management for Small Communities Course to be Offered January 12 in Phoenix. NETCSC, in cooperation with the National Sanitation Foundation, and the National Rural Water Association will present a 1-day course for small community decision makers, assistance providers, and advocacy organizations on how to manage small water and wastewater systems. For more information, contact Betty B. Ford at 202-260-8510.

National Drought Policy Commission

The National Drought Policy Commission (NDPC) held a public hearing and a business meeting on December 1-2, 1999 in Los Angeles. The NDPC discussed the draft report and gave comments to the Interagency Contacts Group for report revision. The NDPC will hold a teleconference meeting on January 5, 2000 to review status and schedule the remaining public hearings. The next public hearings will be held in Austin, Texas on January 25, 2000 and in Billings, Montana on January 27, 2000. Hearings will also be conducted in February of 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia; Columbus, Ohio (tentative location); and Boston, Massachusetts. The specific dates will be determined later. The request to extend the legislative deadline was denied; the NDPC plans to submit its final report in April, 2000. For more information, contact John Flowers on 202-260-7288 or visit the NDPC website at <www.fsa.usda.gov/drought/>.

REGULATIONS AT WORK

Direct Final Rule for EPA's Clean Water Act Awards

A final draft of a direct final rule for EPA's Clean Water Act awards is currently being reviewed by partners in EPA's Headquarters and Regions. Stakeholder review copies are also provided to State Water Pollution Control Agencies and Tribal Coordinators. Comments should be provided to the Municipal Assistance Branch by Friday, January 7, 2000. The rule will formalize eligibility requirements, nominations process, application provisions and selection criteria for the Office of Wastewater Management's National Wastewater Management Excellence Awards programs. Currently, the rule includes awards for Operations and Maintenance, Beneficial Use of Biosolids, Pretreatment, Storm Water Management and Combined Sewer Overflow Controls.

We expect the guidance for EPA's Year 2000 National Operations and Maintenance Excellence Award Program to be issued in early January 2000. The guidance includes instructions and appropriate forms for the Regional O&M Awards Managers, and the national award applicants. EPA Regions should submit nominations for national O&M awards to EPA Headquarters by Friday, May 19, 2000.

The program brochure for EPA's National Wastewater Management Excellence awards lists the 1999 National winners and is currently available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/muni.htm>.

For more information, contact Maria Campbell at (202) 260-5815.

END OF REPORT